

Water Body No. WA-55-1010
(Segment No. 24-54-01)

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS AND LABORATORY SERVICES PROGRAM
TOXICS INVESTIGATIONS/GROUND WATER MONITORING SECTION

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

January 25, 1990

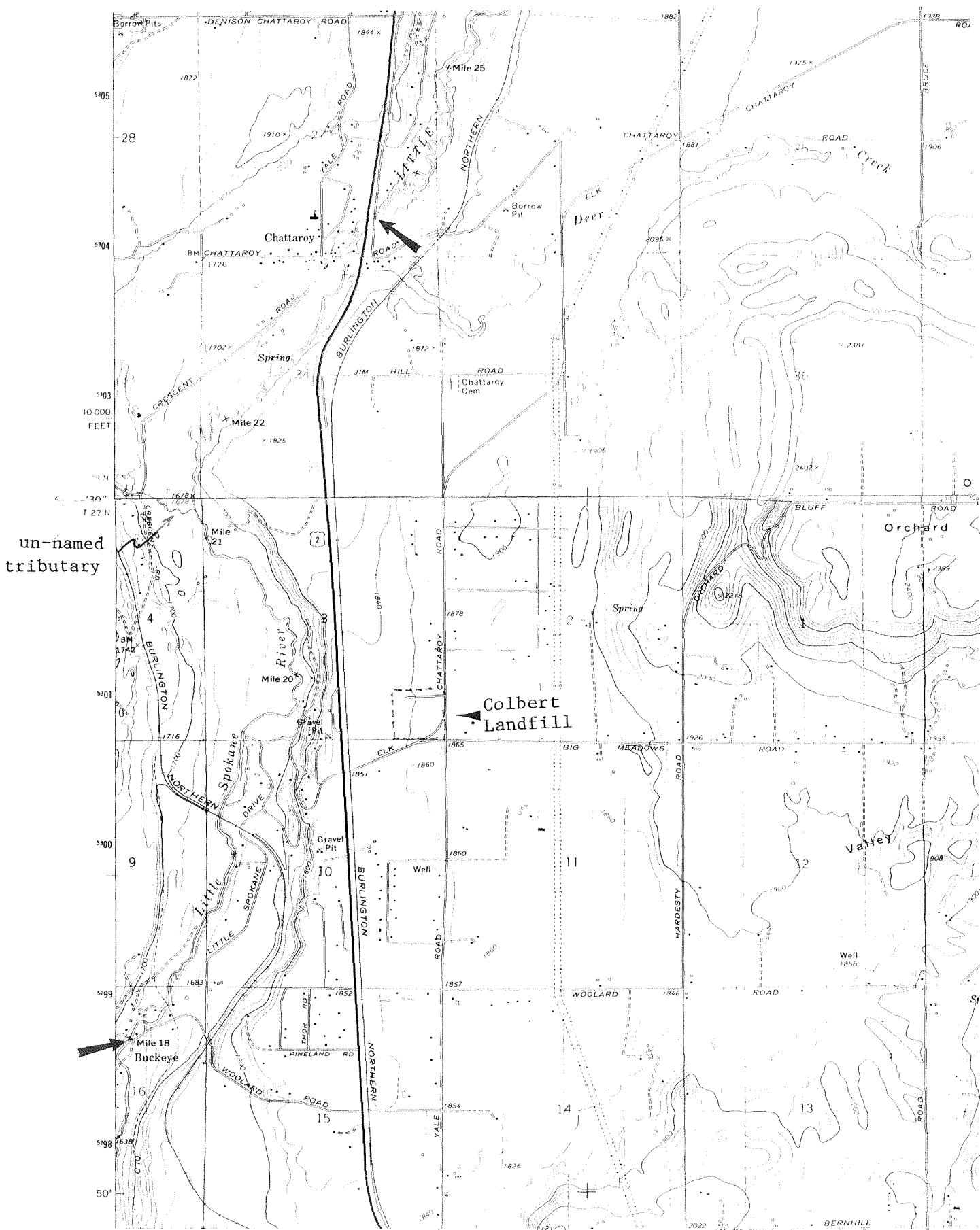
TO: Mike Blum
THROUGH: Bill Yake
FROM: Art Johnson
SUBJECT: Survey for Volatiles in the Little Spokane River

In response to your request, I conducted a brief survey of water quality in the Little Spokane River in the vicinity of the Colbert Landfill on September 12-13, 1989. The primary objective was to determine if the solvent-contaminated ground water plume beneath the landfill had reached the river. A secondary objective was to obtain general water quality data on this reach of the river.

Water samples were collected at Chattaroy just upstream of Highway 2 at the Eastern Washington University streamflow gaging station (river mile 23) and at the Woolard Road bridge (river mile 18). The Woolard bridge is approximately 1.5 miles downstream from Colbert Landfill (see figure).

Three grab samples were collected from center river at both sites over an 18-hour period. Sample containers for analysis of volatiles were standard 40 ml glass vials with teflon septa (I-Chem Series 300, Hayward CA) filled leaving no head space. A transfer blank was prepared in the field at the Woolard site; a transport blank was also carried through the survey. Samples were kept on ice and transported to the Ecology Manchester Laboratory on September 14. Volatiles were analyzed at Manchester by EPA Method 624 within 12 to 13 days of collection. Sampling and analysis methods for other water quality variables followed standard Ecology procedures described in Huntamer and Smith (1989).

River flow during the survey, based on gage heights at Chattaroy, ranged from 77.2 to 80.0 cfs (data provided by Greg Baca, Spokane Community College). Flow in the Little Spokane at the USGS Dartford gage (r.m. 11.4) was 109 cfs during the same period (data provided by Michael Boatsman, Ecology Eastern Regional Office). The 7-day, 10-year low flow for the Little Spokane at Dartford is 92 cfs; the 40-year average is 312 cfs (USGS, 1985).



SAMPLING STATIONS (→)

Results of analysis for volatiles showed a trace of 1,1,1-trichloroethane, the predominant ground water contaminant at Colbert, was present in all samples collected at Woolard bridge (Table 1). Concentrations were below the quantitation limit of the instrument and were estimated to be 2 ug/L. This concentration represents a load of approximately 0.8 lbs/ day going into the river--assuming complete mixing and ignoring losses through volatilization. There was no evidence of trichloroethane in the Little Spokane upstream of the fill. In the opinion of the analyst, Greg Perez, a conservative estimate of the highest trichloroethane concentration that could have been present in the Chattaroy samples and escape detection is on the order of 0.5 ug/L.

The only other volatile compound detected during the survey was 2 ug/L of methylene chloride in the transport blank. The complete data set for the survey, including recoveries of matrix spikes and surrogates, is attached.

Table 2 summarizes the remaining water quality data. The river was within Class AA - A standards for temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and turbidity. Although a number of constituents showed elevated concentrations at Woolard relative to Chattaroy, changes of this magnitude occur in many rivers and cannot, based on these data, be attributed to the Colbert plume. Chloride concentrations at both sampling sites appeared to decrease over the course of the survey; other constituents remained relatively unchanged.

Nitrite/nitrate concentrations were much higher at Woolard than Chattaroy (average of 0.88 vs. 0.18 mg/L). Preliminary results from samples collected on December 12, 1989, (described below) suggest an un-named, right bank (facing downstream) tributary at approximately river mile 21.1 is a major nitrogen source to this reach of the river. This tributary is identified on the accompanying figure.

Two potentially toxic metals were analyzed: cadmium, in light of its detection in the Colbert plume, and mercury because Ecology ambient monitoring data show elevated concentrations at the mouth of the Little Spokane. Neither metal was present in detectable amounts during the present survey.

As you know, detection of trichloroethane in the Little Spokane was the impetus for the above-mentioned December 12 survey, designed to determine where the plume was entering the river. Samples for analysis of volatiles, specific conductance, chloride, and nitrite/nitrate were collected along a ten-station transect between Woolard bridge and Chattaroy. Samples were also collected from Sterling Spring (left bank, west of Colbert Landfill) and the river mile 21.1 tributary. More sensitive analytical methods are being employed on these samples in an effort to better quantify trichloroethane concentrations and detect other volatile compounds of concern. Chemical analyses should be completed by the end of January.

REFERENCES:

Huntamer, D. and C. Smith. 1989. Lab User's Manual. Wash. Dept. Ecology, Manchester Laboratory.

USGS. 1985. Streamflow Statistics and Drainage Basin Characteristics of the Southwestern and Western Regions, Washington. Volume II. Open-file Report 84-145-B.

BY:AJ/sk
Attachments

cc: Carl Neuchterlein
Claude Sappington
Michael Boatsman
Dick Cunningham
Steve Twiss
Steve Hunter

Table 1. 1,1,1-Trichloroethane concentrations in the Little Spokane River above and below Colbert Landfill, September 1989.

Location	Date	Time	Sample No. (37-)	1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ug/L)
Chattaroy above Highway 2 Bridge	Sept 12	1430	8135	5 U
	Sept 12	1815	8133	5 U
	Sept 13	0755	8134	5 U
Woolard Road Bridge	Sept 12	1545	8130	2 J
			8130*	2 J
	Sept 12	1845	8131	2 J
	Sept 13	0830	8132	2 J
Transfer Blank	Sept 12	1615	8136	5 U
Transport Blank	--	--	8137	5 U
Method Blank	--	--	--	5 U

U = not detected; value shown is quantitation limit

J = estimated value

* = duplicate analysis

Table 2. Other water quality data for the Little Spokane River above and below Colbert Landfill, September 1989.

Location:	Chattaroy above Highway 2 Bridge			Woolard Road Bridge		
	Sept 12	Sept 12	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 12	Sept 13
Date:	1430	1815	0755	1545	1845	0830
Time:						
Sample No. (37-):	8135	8133	8134	8130	8131	8132
Flow (cfs)	80.0	78.6	77.2	-	-	-
Temperature (°C)	14.6	15.3	12.0	14.4	14.5	10.6
pH (S.U.)	8.3	8.4	7.9	8.3/8.3*	8.2	8.0
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	10.6	10.8	8.0	10.1	9.2	9.2
Spec. Conductivity (umhos/cm)	179	167	185	232/233*	223	233
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	1	1 U	2	1/1 U*	1	2
Turbidity (NTU)	1.2	1.6	0.9	1.0/0.9*	1.1	1.3
Total Hardness (mg/L)	98	97	100	129/129*	128	125
Chloride (mg/L)	3.21	1.63	1.56	3.61	2.56	1.94/1.93*
Nitrite/Nitrate (mg/L)	0.18	0.17	0.18	0.88/0.88*	0.87	0.90
Sulfate (mg/L)	4.88	4.76	4.85	6.61	6.60	6.59/6.60*
Silica (mg/L)	16.9/15.9*	16.0	16.5	19.3	19.2	19.0
Total Alkalinity (mg/L)	94	92	94	116/115*	115	115
Calcium (mg/L)	27.4	26.8	26.9	34.6/34.5*	34.2	34.0
Magnesium (mg/L)	5.74	5.67	5.72	7.50/7.48*	7.32	7.27
Sodium (mg/L)	4.77	4.74	4.74	5.72/5.71*	5.58	5.58
Potassium (mg/L)	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.0/2.1*	2.1	2.1
Mercury (ug/L)	0.06	U	0.06 U	0.06 U	0.06 U	0.06 U
Cadmium (ug/L)	0.20	U	0.20 U	0.20 U	0.20 U	0.20 U
Iron (ug/L)	54.9	66.4	67.2	55.6/58.0*	67.2	67.9
Manganese (ug/L)	9.1	9.1	11.1	13.7/13.7*	14.3	16.3

Note: Metals are total recoverable

* = duplicate analysis

U - not detected at detection limit shown

20-DEC-89
12:45:04

Washington State Department of Ecology
Sample/Project Analysis Results

Project: DOE-077F LITTLE SPOKANE RIVER (WASH. LAKES)

Laboratory: Ecology, Manchester

Sample No: 89 378133

Description: CHATTARY

Begin Date: 89/09/12 :

VON - PP Scan (GCMS)	Water-Totals
Matrix Spike #2	Result Units
Surrog: D8-Toluene	104 % Recov
Ion Chromatography	Water-Totals
Chloride	Result Units
Sulfate Total	1.63 * mg/l
	4.76 * mg/l

Source: Ambient Stream/River

Officer: AFJ Account: D3400

20-DEC-89
12:45:04

Washington State Department of Ecology
Sample/Project Analysis Results

Project: DOE-077F LITTLE SPOKANE RIVER (WASH. LAKES)

Laboratory: Ecology, Manchester

Sample No: 89 378136

Description: TRNSFRBK

Begin Date: 89/09/12

:

+ VOA - PP Scan (GCMS)	+ Water-TOTAL Result	+ Units	+ VOA - PP Scan (GCMS) Result	+ Units	* * * Continued	Water-TOTAL Result	Units
Carbon Tetrachloride	5U	ug/l	4-Methyl-2-Pentanone	10U	ug/l		
Acetone	10U	ug/l	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	5U	ug/l		
Chloroform	5U	ug/l	Bromobenzene	5U	ug/l		
Benzene	5U	ug/l	Toluene	5U	ug/l		
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	5U	ug/l	Chlorobenzene	5U	ug/l		
Bromomethane	10U	ug/l	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	5U	ug/l		
Bromochloromethane	5U	ug/l	Dibromochloromethane	5U	ug/l		
Bromoethane	5U	ug/l	Tetrachloroethene	5U	ug/l		
Chloroethane	10U	ug/l	Sec-Butylbenzene	5U	ug/l		
Vinyl Chloride	10U	ug/l	1,3-Dichloropropane	5U	ug/l		
Methylene Chloride	5U	ug/l	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	5U	ug/l		
Carbon Disulfide	5U	ug/l	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	5U	ug/l		
Bromoform	5U	ug/l	1,3-Dichlorobenzene	5U	ug/l		
Bromodichloromethane	5U	ug/l	1,1-Dichloropropene	5U	ug/l		
1,1-Dichloroethane	5U	ug/l	2,2-Dichloropropane	5U	ug/l		
1,1-Dichloroethene	5U	ug/l	2-Hexanone	10U	ug/l		
Trichlorofluoromethane	10U	ug/l	Ethane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrac-	5U	ug/l		
Methane, Dichlorodiflu-	5U	ug/l	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	5U	ug/l		
1,2-Dichloropropane	10U	ug/l	trans-1,3-Dichloroprop-	5U	ug/l		
2-Butanone	5U	ug/l	Surrog: D4-1,2-Dichloro+	96	% Recov		
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5U	ug/l	Surrog: 1,4-Bromofluor+	98	% Recov		
Trichloroethene	5U	ug/l	Surrog: D8-Toluene	101	% Recov		
ETHANE, 1,1,2,2-TETRAC-	5U	ug/l					
1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	5U	ug/l					
Hexachlorobutadiene	5U	ug/l					
Naphthalene	5U	ug/l					
Total Xylenes	5U	ug/l					
2-Chlorotoluene	5U	ug/l					
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	5U	ug/l					
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	5U	ug/l					
DBCP	5U	ug/l					
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	5U	ug/l					
Tert-Butylbenzene	5U	ug/l					
Isopropylbenzene (Cumene)	5U	ug/l					
p-Isopropyltoluene	5U	ug/l					
BENZENE, ETHYL-	5U	ug/l					
BENZENE, ETHENYL-	5U	ug/l					
BENZENE, PROPYL-	5U	ug/l					
Butylbenzene	5U	ug/l					
4-Chlorotoluene	5U	ug/l					
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	5U	ug/l					
1,2-Dibromoethane (EDB)	10U	ug/l					
1,2-Dichloroethane	5U	ug/l					
Vinyl Acetate	10U	ug/l					

(Sample Complete)

Project: DOE-077F LITTLE SPOKANE RIVER (WASH. LAKES)

Blank ID: BW9268

VOA

Officer: AFJ

Account: D3400

	PP Scan (GCMS)	Water-Totals	VOA - PP Scan (GCMS)	Water-Totals
Blank #1	Result	Units	Blank #1	Continued ***
Carbon Tetrachloride	5U	ug/1	Blank #1	Result Units
Acetone	10U	ug/1	4-Methyl-2-Pentanone	10U ug/1
Chloroform	5U	ug/1	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	5U ug/1
Benzene	5U	ug/1	Bromobenzene	5U ug/1
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	5U	ug/1	Toluene	5U ug/1
Bromomethane	10U	ug/1	Chlorobenzene	5U ug/1
Chloromethane	10U	ug/1	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	5U ug/1
Dibromomethane	5U	ug/1	Dibromo-chloromethane	5U ug/1
Bromo-chloromethane	5U	ug/1	Tetrachloroethene	5U ug/1
Chloroethane	10U	ug/1	Sec-Butylbenzene	5U ug/1
Vinyl Chloride	10U	ug/1	1,3-Dichloropropane	5U ug/1
Methylene Chloride	2J*	ug/1	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	5U ug/1
Carbon Disulfide	5U	ug/1	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	5U ug/1
Bromoform	5U	ug/1	1,3-Dichlorobenzene	5U ug/1
Bromo-dichloromethane	5U	ug/1	1,1-Dichloropropane	5U ug/1
1,1-Dichloroethane	5U	ug/1	2,2-Dichloropropane	5U ug/1
1,1-Dichloroethene	5U	ug/1	2-Hexanone	10U ug/1
Trichlorofluoromethane	5U	ug/1	Ethane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrac	5U ug/1
Methane, Dichlorodiflu+	10U	ug/1	cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	5U ug/1
1,2-Dichloropropane	5U	ug/1	trans-1,3-Dichloroprop	5U ug/1
2-Butanone	10U	ug/1	Surrog: D4-1,2-Dichlor+	89 ug/1 Recov
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5U	ug/1	Surrog: 1,4-BromoFluo+	98 ug/1 Recov
Trichloroethene	5U	ug/1	Surrog: D8-Toluene	104 ug/1 Recov
ETHANE, 1,1,2,2-TETRAC+	5U	ug/1		
1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	5U	ug/1		
Hexachlorobutadiene	5U	ug/1		
Naphthalene	5U	ug/1		
Total xylenes	5U	ug/1		
2-Chlorotoluene	5U	ug/1		
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	5U	ug/1		
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	5U	ug/1		
DBCP	5U	ug/1		
1,2,3 Trichloropropane	5U	ug/1		
Tert-Butylbenzene	5U	ug/1		
Isopropylbenzene (Cumene)	5U	ug/1		
P-Isopropyltoluene	5U	ug/1		
BENZENE, ETHYL-	5U	ug/1		
BENZENE, ETHENYL-	5U	ug/1		
BENZENE, PROPYL-	5U	ug/1		
Butylbenzene	5U	ug/1		
4-Chlorotoluene	5U	ug/1		
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	5U	ug/1		
1,2-Dibromomethane (EDB)	10U	ug/1		
1,2-Dichloroethane	5U	ug/1		
Vinyl Acetate	10U	ug/1		

(Sample Complete)

20-DEC-82
12:45:04

Washington State Department of Ecology
Sample/Project Analysis Results

Project: DOE-077F LITTLE SPOKANE RIVER (WASH. LAKES)

Blank ID: PB 44.72

	Metals - Total Recov	Water-Total	
	Blank #1	Result	Units
Cadmium	Tot-Rec	0.37	ug/l
	Metals - Total Recov	Water-Total	
	Blank #2	Result	Units
Calcium	Tot-Rec	.0010U	mg/l
Magnesium	Tot-Rec	.0010U	mg/l
Sodium	Tot-Rec	.046 *	mg/l
Potassium	Tot-Rec	.50U	mg/l
Iron	Tot-Rec	5.0U	ug/l
Manganese	Tot-Rec	1.0U	ug/l

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Account: D3400

Officer: AFJ

(Sample Complete)

20-DEC-89
12:45:04

Washington State Department of Ecology
Sample/Project Analysis Results

Project: DOE-077F LITTLE SPOKANE RIVER (WASH. LAKES)

Blank ID: PB 44.73

Metals	Total Recov	Water-Totals	Result	Units
Blank #2				
Cadmium	Tot-Rec	0.20U	ug/l	
Metals	Total Recov	Water-Totals	Result	Units
Blank #1				
Calcium	Tot-Rec	.0010U	mg/l	
Magnesium	Tot-Rec	.0010U	mg/l	
Sodium	Tot-Rec	.044 *	mg/l	
Potassium	Tot-Rec	.50U	mg/l	
Iron	Tot-Rec	5.0U	ug/l	
Manganese	Tot-Rec	1.0U	ug/l	

Officer: AFJ
Account: D3400

(Sample Complete)